

Welcome to the West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board briefing. The partnership, which covers Reading, West Berkshire and Wokingham has a large workplan with a number of themes to help better support and protect vulnerable members of the community. This is overseen by a management board which meets four times a year.

The management Board last met June 2022. Where we considered:

- Findings from Reading Borough Councils Hoarding project,
- Improvement plans from South Central Ambulance in light of their recent CQC inspection where they were told they must make improvements in regards their governance arrangements for safeguarding,
- Discussions on how to resolve a significant increase in out of scope safeguarding concerns,
- Agreed the Boards priorities for 2022/23
- Improvement work health are undertaking in regard to Mental Health services in Berkshire.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for September 2022.

Best Practice Guide - Out of area reviews

In response to the learning identified in the [Adam SAR](#) the Board has developed a best practice guide for out of area reviews. The aim of this document is to provide clarity and best practice guidance to staff when they are carrying out reviews for people who are placed in out of area supported living, residential or nursing home care. The guide can be found [here](#).

Contacts

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Louise – Learning from a SAR

Louise died in hospital when she was in her 40's. Louise had been living at home supported by two carers/personal assistants, one of whom lived in with her, this was managed by direct payments.

Concerns had been raised over the years about the quality of care provided to Louise by the live-in personal assistant.

Louise wanted to have weight loss surgery so that she could look after her son, who lived at his grandparents. Despite making changes in her life in preparation for surgery, Louise was told that it could not go ahead. Following this, Louise refused to allow district nurses to treat her pressure ulcers.

Key Learning Points from this review were:

- There were unresolved concerns about the extent to which Louise's care and support needs were being met.
- Safeguarding processes did not identify patterns, themes or connections that might have alerted practitioners to the need to reconsider how well Louise's care and support needs were met or the extent to which Louise was feigning compliance and self-neglecting.
- No connection was made between the refusal of surgery and Louise's subsequent refusal of district nursing care. The impact of this was not recognised and no support was provided for Louise to cope with this disappointment.
- There was insufficient recognition that Louise was self-neglecting.
- Louise's mental capacity to make decisions about her care was assumed rather than assessed. This was despite a consistent pattern of "unwise decisions"
- There was insufficient consideration given to balancing Louise's wellbeing (Section 1 of the Care Act) and the obligation to protect her life (Article 2 of the Human Rights Act) with her right to make decisions (Article 8)

A 7 Minute Learning Summary from the author has been published (link below) which goes into more detail on the learning points.

[PowerPoint Presentation \(sabberkshirewest.co.uk\)](#)

MS awareness course for care workers and social care staff

A new, free online course with learning outcomes and content developed by people with MS and health and social care professionals and produced in partnership with Grey Matter Learning. The course explores the different types of MS, how it impacts the care people may need, and how to support people with MS. An accreditation is available from Grey Matter Learning – details are at the end of the course.

[Multiple Sclerosis - Overview \(greymatterlearning.co.uk\)](https://greymatterlearning.co.uk/Multiple-Sclerosis-Overview)

Safeguarding Learning and Development Events Schedule

The Learning and Development subgroup have launched an events schedule, which lists all training/events relevant to safeguarding adults, that are open to all of the workforce and volunteers, across the West Berkshire.

The schedule will be continuously updated and can be found here: [Workforce Development | Safeguarding Adults Board \(sabberkshirewest.co.uk\)](https://sabberkshirewest.co.uk/Workforce-Development-Safeguarding-Adults-Board)

Safeguarding Adults Week 2022

21 – 27 November
#SafeguardingAdultsWeek

The Ann Craft Trust Safeguarding Adults Week 2022 will take place from Monday 21 - Sunday 27 November.

It's an opportunity for organisations to come together to raise awareness of important safeguarding issues. The aim is to highlight key safeguarding key issues, start conversations and raise awareness of safeguarding best practice. So, we can all be better together

Each day they will be focusing on a different safeguarding theme to explore how we can respond to contemporary safeguarding challenges.

Please go to [Safeguarding Adults Week 2022 - Responding to Contemporary Safeguarding Challenges - Ann Craft Trust](#) for more information.

Our Priorities for 2022/23

Agreed by the Board in June 2022, the priorities for the partnership are:

1. To expand on learning in regard to self-neglect; to offer the partnership with resources to support them to achieve effective outcomes for individuals that self-neglect.
2. Seek assurance that quality of health and social care services delivered in the West of Berkshire or those commissioned out of area for West of Berkshire residents is monitored effectively and there is a proportionate response to concerns.
3. The Board should review its Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) process, to ensure that it is timely and good value for money.
4. The Board will continue to carry out the following business as usual tasks in order to comply with its statutory obligations:
 - Publish a newsletter on a 3- monthly basis
 - Publish an annual report
 - Maintain and improve its website
 - Maintain and improve Pan Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Policies and Procedures
 - Manage the Board budget
 - Seek assurance that issues around out of scope safeguarding concerns are addressed
 - Launch the joint investigation protocol – in response to Adam SAR learning
 - Promotion of the Safeguarding Adults Awareness Week, led by the Ann Craft Trust
 - Promotion of a national pressure care awareness campaign
 - Review and relaunch the peer reviews for Section 42 case file audits
 - Seek assurance from partners on the implementation of Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS)