

West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Board

Briefing no. 6 – December 2021

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.

For 2021-23 we have agreed to focus on four main priorities which are:

- Priority 1: To consider Board learning in regard to self-neglect; to understand what more we need to do to ensure that our ways of working with people who are self-neglecting are consistent and effective in mitigating and preventing risks.
- Priority 2: To consider Board learning in regard to pressure care management and understand what the partnership need to do to ensure that our way of working with people at risk of pressure sores is consistently of best practice standard.
- Priority 3: To consider Board learning in regard to organisational safeguarding and identify what the partnership need to do to transform our way of working with provider agencies to promote and ensure good quality, safe and consistent standards of care.
- Priority 4: The Board will continue to carry out the following business as usual tasks in order to comply with its statutory obligations.

Our Board last met in October 2021 where we endorsed a Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) John. The practice learning note from this SAR has been published and more information can be found further on in this briefing.

Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) - John

John had a formal diagnosis of dementia and lived with his daughter Rose, who was John's Lasting Power of Attorney. Rose managed direct payments on behalf of John, so he could live with Rose. John was admitted to hospital and there was a disagreement between Rose and professionals, on the discharge plan. During this period of disagreement, John became unfit for discharge and Rose made attempts to discharge John, against medical advice. John passed away in hospital.

In response to learning identified in this SAR the Board have published a practice learning note which can be found [here](#).

Self-Neglect – Understanding my Story – This is what works

Please take five minutes to watch this powerful video from Deborah Barnett on [self-neglect](#).

Case Studies

Peter published September 21, shares learning from a single agency review regarding how safeguarding concerns in relation to quality and suitability of care were managed. The case study can be found [here](#).

The Board is keen to develop its library of case studies with a focus on good practice examples to support reflective practice. Do you have any examples of good practice multi-agency working that you could share with the Board? - Please contact Lynne.Mason@Reading.gov.uk

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 or on 07718 12060

Bitesize Learning Session

Legal decision-making powers and advocacy

In November 21, the Board hosted a 90-minute virtual workshop on legal decision-making powers and advocacy. The session was held to support the partnership in regards to learning identified in the [John SAR](#). Four presenters provided information on:

- What is a Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) and what are their decision making powers?
- When and how to bring in advocate when there is an LPA
- Managing challenging conversations with an LPA
- Guidance on how to address concerns regarding an LPA

There was a question and answer session at the end which gave attendees the opportunity to ask specific questions around working with LPAs.

The session was a great success, there were over 200 attendees and feedback received was positive. The session was recorded, and we are currently looking into making this available online. The presentation slides are available and can be found [here](#).

Please look out for communication about our bitesize learning events for 2022 we plan to deliver sessions on self-neglect, pressure care management and learning from SARS.

Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Policies and Procedures Pressure Ulcer Pathway

In response to the learning from the [P SAR](#), there has been a review of the pressure ulcer pathway, which is a multi-agency pathway that aims to support decisions about appropriate responses to pressure ulcer care. The revised pathway was published in October 21 and can be found [here](#).

The practice learning note in regards to the P SAR was also published in October 21 and be found [here](#).

Sharing Good Practice - Vulnerable Adults Form

[The Flory Clinic](#) have created a vulnerable adults form to support clinicians to assess vulnerable adult and record their vulnerabilities to inform the care moving forward and to highlight where signposting or Safeguarding may be needed. It does not replace the safeguarding process/pathways but helps to prompt professionals in their assessment of risk. An made up example of the form can be found [here](#).

Office of the Public Guardian (OPG) – response times

It was highlighted to the Board that there has been an increase in waiting times in getting a response from the OPG to confirm if a Lasting Power of Attorney is in place. The Board contacted the OPG about this delay and the OPG confirmed that: *The OPG has a service to support staff from across local authorities, social care, police and NHS, who are dealing with adults at risk. Staff from these organisations can request information we have on our registers to help them make urgent decisions about someone who may lack mental capacity. OPG aims to respond to requests submitted through the new service within 24 hours, Monday to Friday.*

The following link explains how to go about the process of making an urgent enquiry.

[Urgent enquiries: check if someone has an attorney or deputy - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

If the enquiry is non-urgent then this is the link to follow: [Find out if someone has a registered attorney or deputy - GOV.UK](#)

Postural Management Service

Is a single point of access for West of Berkshire Care Home residents, who require support in Postural Management. The service is provided by the Berkshire Healthcare Integrated Care Home Service.

For more information on what service is on offer and how to make a referral please see the following [leaflet](#).

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

The Care Act 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 (PiPoT). The Framework can be found on our Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedure [website](#). In September 21 the partnership launched a PiPoT allegations notification form, which should be used to notify the relevant local authority of the allegations made against a PiPoT. This can be found [here](#).