

Welcome to the West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Board briefing. The 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.

Each Board focuses on a key priority set out in the Boards Strategy. In September 2019, the focus was on Targeted Exploitation.

The Board heard presentations from:

Thames Valley Police, on their response to Financial Exploitation of vulnerable people. Financial Fraud and online crime is believed to cost the UK Economy £2 Million each day and the allegations are increasing. Vulnerable People are at high risk of being targeted and once someone is a victim of fraud, they are more likely to be targeted again. There is lots of useful information on Scams in the Little Book of Big Scams – 4th Edition which can be found:

<http://www.sabberkshirewest.co.uk/media/1421/the-little-book-of-big-scams-4th-edition.pdf>

Reading Borough Council, West Berkshire District Council and Wokingham Borough Council, provided a presentation on their response to the lessons learnt from Daniel, a Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) regarding Financial Abuse, endorsed by the Board in June 2020.

The Willows Project, a service commissioned by Thames Valley Police to support victims of targeted exploitation. Victims of modern slavery and exploitation can be referred to the Willow Project through Victims First on 0300 1234 148 or www.victims-first.org.uk

Minutes of this Board meeting can be found on our website:

<http://www.sabberkshirewest.co.uk/board-members/board-meetings/>

Safeguarding Strategy 2018-2021

The Board has a 3-year strategy setting out 4 key priorities. An annual Business Plan contains actions to support the delivery of these priorities. The priorities were reviewed and revised in July 2019:

Priority 1: We will provide the partnership with the tools and framework to work effectively with people who Self-Neglect

Priority 2: The Board will work collaboratively with the Berkshire West Safeguarding Children Partnership, 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: We will understand the main risks to our local population in regards to Targeted Exploitation and agree how best to equip the partnership to Safeguard vulnerable people against these risks.

Priority 4: The Board will understand from key stakeholders why there has been an increase in organisational safeguarding and seek assurance from commissioners that there are adequate preventative measures in place, consistent across the partnership where practical.

The Board accepts that priorities may change as a result of national and local learning.

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 120601

We also have 2 dedicated websites:

- <http://www.sabberkshirewest.co.uk/>
- <https://www.berkshiresafeguardingadults.co.uk/>

Bite size learning events

You are invited to two-hour 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. No need to book, just turn up on the day. Coming up soon:

Royal Berkshire Fire & Rescue Service - Threat of Arson Safe and Well Processes
Thursday 16th January 2020, 10:00 -12:00
Council Chamber, Wokingham Borough Council, Shute End, Wokingham

Or the same session is being held on:
Friday 7th February 2020, 13:00-15:00
West Berkshire Council Chamber, Council Office, Market Street, Newbury, RG14 5LD

Learning from Domestic Homicide Reviews
Tuesday 28 January 2020, 2.30pm – 4.00pm
Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Reading Borough Council, Bridge Street, Reading RG1 2L

The workshops run quarterly to provide topic-based safeguarding information and learning, to support and complement the Board's approved training programme. Find out more at:
<http://www.sabberkshirewest.co.uk/practitioners/workforce-development/bite-size-workshops/>

Pan Berkshire Policies and Procedures

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.

There is a dedicated website:
<https://www.berkshiresafeguardingadults.co.uk/>

The Policies and Procedures are regularly reviewed and updated. Recent updates/additions include:

- Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Boards' Information Sharing Protocol
- Pressure Ulcer Pathway
- Allegation Management Framework/Person in a Position of Trust (PiPoT)
- Thames Valley Police Modern Slavery Pathway

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

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 four SARS Recently: Aubrey, Paul, Gemma and Daniel, copies of these SARS can be found on our website, along with 2-page practice notes for each SAR to highlight learning for practitioners. <http://www.sabberkshirewest.co.uk/practitioners/safeguarding-adults-reviews/>

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