



Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Board Newsletter



WSAB has a new Board Manager

WSAB warmly welcomes Bridget Brickley in to her new role as Board Manager. A qualified Social Worker, Bridget joins us from Dudley Council, where she recently worked in Adult Social Care. She has a long and productive background in partnership working and project management having previously established and managed Community Safety Partnerships and Local Strategic Partnerships.

Whilst this had previously been an interim post the Board agreed in 2015 that with the volume of work being carried out the Board making the role permanent would provide significant additional support. The Board thanks Lynne Taylor, the previous Interim Board Manager, for all of her hard work and wishes her well in her new role, exploring the world.

WSAB Constitution

Since the introduction of the Care Act (2014) it is a requirement of all Safeguarding Adults Boards to carry out certain roles and responsibilities. In order to do this as effectively as possible the Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Board works to a constitution. This enables Board members, sub groups, partner agencies and the public to clearly understand the vision and principles of the Board, its structure, membership and governance arrangements and to define its powers and duties.

As a number of changes and developments have occurred over the past 12 months, such as additional guidance from the Government it was felt that it was timely to review the Constitution and the updated version was agreed at Board in April 2016. This can be found at: www.worcestershire.gov.uk/downloads/file/6505/constitution

WSAB Engagement and Prevention Strategies

In order to carry out the work of the WSAB efficiently and effectively as possible the Community Awareness and Prevention sub group have produced two new strategies

Prevention Strategy:

www.worcestershire.gov.uk/downloads/file/7080/wsab_prevention_strategy_cap_09

Engagement Strategy:

www.worcestershire.gov.uk/downloads/file/7079/wsab_engagement_strategy_cap_08

Whilst the end goal of these two strategies is the same, to help the Board to reduce the risk of abuse and neglect to adults with care and support needs in Worcestershire, they work slightly differently to achieve this.

The Prevention strategy outlines what the prevention of abuse and neglect is, how agencies can achieve this and what good Practise looks like whilst the engagement strategy sets out who we will communicate with, how we will communicate with them and what we are aiming to achieve.

WSAB July Board Meeting

On Monday 11th July West Mercia Police kindly hosted the WSAB quarterly Board meeting at Hindlip.

Items discussed included:

- WSAB MCA DoLS Competency Frameworks – this is now available to all agencies and provides a benchmark of good practice
- WSAB Safeguarding Competency Frameworks - this is now available to all agencies and provides a benchmark of good practice
- Performance and Quality Assurance Framework – data from partner agencies is being shared with the Board in order to provide a 'bigger picture' view of Worcestershire helping to focus where resources should be focused
- Transitions Event – feedback following an joint event held with the Worcestershire Safeguarding Childrens Board looking at 'Developing a more effective response to risks in adolescence'
- MASH – seeking assurance around the governance of Worcestershire's Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub
- Carers' Report Post Care Act - a report following the publication of the Carers UK Annual Survey of Carers, on the impact of the Care Act on carers
- Engagement Strategy - this was approved and is now available on the website
- Prevention Strategy - this was approved and is now available on the website

The Board were also fortunate to have two guest speakers. Mary Slater representing The Worcestershire Association of Carers shared the experiences of two carer families within Worcestershire in order to highlight some of the day to day issues that can be overlooked by service providers and Kevin Dicks, Chief Executive of Bromsgrove District and Redditch Borough Councils, explained the current issues facing housing providers within the county and the impact that can have on individuals. In both cases it highlighted the very real realities faced by people with care and support needs within the County and reminded all partner agencies of the importance of Making Safeguarding Personal.