Newsletter

July 2019

# Website

The new joint WSAB/WSCB website has been launched! Following a period of consultation and testing with partners and agencies, the new website was officially launched on 20th May 2019. The new address is <https://www.safeguardingworcestershire.org.uk/>

With a fresh look and feel, the site affords a smoother, more intuitive user experience. Independent Chair for both Safeguarding Boards, Derek Benson, said, "We are excited about the launch of our new site, we hope visitors will be able to find information with ease. We love the new look and believe it is a great improvement to have so much safeguarding content available in one place. The new site is testament to the ever closer collaboration and cooperation between the Boards. Our thanks go to all agencies and individuals who have supported this venture, especially the Worcestershire CCGs who have had a leading role in its development."

We welcome feedback – please email your comments to safeguardingadultsbo@worcestershire.gov.uk

# Annual Learning Event

Following a very successful event in January this year, the next WSAB Annual Learning Event will be expanded to reach a larger audience. It will take place on Friday 15th November 2019 and as usual will focus on a theme of learning from Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs). Further details will be published on the website and in future newsletters.

*Save The Date – Friday 15th November 9.30am – 4.30pm*

*Worcester University Arena, Hylton Road, Worcester, WR2 5JN*

# Board Documents

Two new SAR documents have been created and two existing SAR documents have been updated – see links below:

* New [Making a SAR referral flowchart](https://www.safeguardingworcestershire.org.uk/documents/making-a-sar-referral-flowchart/) – the procedure for making a referral
* New [SAR overview](https://www.safeguardingworcestershire.org.uk/documents/1893-2/) – clarifies the purpose of a SAR
* [Updated SAR Protocol](https://www.safeguardingworcestershire.org.uk/documents/safeguarding_adults_review_protocol/)
* [Updated SAR 1 Referral form](https://www.safeguardingworcestershire.org.uk/documents/1691-2/)

The [Board Constitution](https://www.safeguardingworcestershire.org.uk/documents/wsab-constitution-v6/) has been updated to reflect some recent changes in governance, including the move to yearly business objective setting.

Three closely related strategy documents have been combined into one, more straight forward publication – the new [Communications and Engagement Strategy](https://www.safeguardingworcestershire.org.uk/documents/communications-and-engagement-strategy/).

A [Joint Working Protocol between West Mercia Women's Aid (WMWA) and Worcestershire Adult Social Care (ASC)](https://www.safeguardingworcestershire.org.uk/documents/joint-working-protocol-between-west-mercia-womens-aid-wmwa-and-worcestershire-adult-social-care-asc/) has been developed.

A guidance document for professionals on [Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)](https://www.safeguardingworcestershire.org.uk/documents/female-genital-mutilation-fgm-pathway/) has been developed by the Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Board. A link is included on the WSAB pages.

# Network Group

A Safeguarding Network will now meet twice a year. This group is open to organisations who directly deliver services to adults at risk, including voluntary sector and services that operate at a district level. The purpose of the group is to share information about Safeguarding and look at how to address issues which don't meet the Section 42 criteria. Meetings so far have included a presentation from the Safeguarding Team Manager and a presentation on the 3 Conversations Model. For more information contact Sarah Wilks on swilks@worcestershire.gov.uk

# Policy Subgroup

Following a number of years of hard work and commitment from the Chair and members of the Policy subgroup, a robust suite of policies and guidance is in place to support practitioners working with adults with care and support needs. Therefore, the ongoing schedule of policy reviews and any future policy development work will be tabled at six monthly intervals on the Communications subgroup agenda. Task and finish groups will be set up to carry out the work, as necessary. The Policy subgroup has been formally stood down and thanks passed on to all members for their support.

# Presentations and Updates – Board meetings

* Integrated Victim Management Team (West Mercia Police) – an overview of the activity of this recently formed team who work with adults who are high end victims of crime who place a high demand on agencies & need longer term support
* Prevent – an update on the implementation of the Prevent duty within Worcestershire County Council and across Worcestershire, including Channel activity
* Learning Disability Mortality Review (LeDeR) Annual Report – the first annual report on activity and progress
* [Domestic Abuse & People with Care & Support Needs (Physical & Learning Disabilities & Mental Health)](https://www.safeguardingworcestershire.org.uk/documents/dr-ruth-jones-domestic-abuse-people-with-care-support-needs-physical-learning-disabilities-mental-health/) - Dr Ruth Jones gave a thought provoking presentation on how people with disabilities often have additional factors that make them particularly susceptible to domestic abuse
* [Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS)](https://www.safeguardingworcestershire.org.uk/documents/liberty-protection-safeguards/) – a very informative presentation on the requirements of the new LPS requirements and how they differ from the existing Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS)
* [People with Lived Experience](https://www.safeguardingworcestershire.org.uk/documents/1898-2/) – see below

WSAB have been working hard to engage people who have care and support needs, with the support of Onside Advocacy.  Onside have met with a number of people from across the County: including women from the Joy Project, people who have received support through a mental health group, people who have experience of homelessness and people who use Reconnections services. They have been exploring people's understanding and concerns around safeguarding and looking at how they would like to share these experiences with the Board, as well as how they would like to hear more about what the Board is doing and to contribute to the work it does. If any people with care and support groups would like to know how they can get involved in this work, please contact Rachel Watkins on rwatkins2@worcestershire.gov.uk

# Work of the Subgroups

Case Review – are managing a large workload which currently includes three Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs), work on SAR Quality Markers and the ongoing monitoring of a number of SAR Action Plans.

Communications – are continuing to develop the content and layout of the new website, as well as supporting the publication of some new and updated policy and guidance documents.

Performance & Quality Assurance – are monitoring the progress of multi-agency actions associated with SARs and are in the process of developing an audit programme.

Learning, Development & Practice – the Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Competency Framework is under review and collaborative work is under way to develop a guidance document for professionals who are concerned about individuals who are hoarding.