

Board Business

There was a focused discussion on the significant increase in safeguarding referrals over the last few months, both locally and nationally. This, to some extent, is being driven by the difficulties in recruiting staff across the care sector and the impact this has on the quality of services. The Safeguarding team are currently having to prioritise referrals, however they are also looking at how they can address this increased demand in the longer term.

Other substantive items included a presentation on the new Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS) from the perspective of Worcestershire. Details of the presentation can be found here [Link to LPS presentation.](#)

There was also a proposal that we look at the recommendations which were made on commissioning in a Review into the death of a rough sleeper 'C' in Worcester City in 2016. This proposal arose following a meeting with a representative from the Cardon Banfield Foundation who felt that the Thematic SAR into the Death of Rough Sleepers did not address the issues of commissioning. It was agreed that we would work with the Cardon Banfield to Foundation to examine this at a county wide level.

Finally, the Chair commended the work being undertaken by the WSAB sub-groups to deliver our annual objectives. All are developing approaches which engage a wider range of stakeholders, including people with lived experience. Whilst, the WSAB want to continually build on these approaches we also need to recognize how far we have moved forward.

Policy Watch

Over the last few months two key policies have been published by the WSAB. These include a substantial review of the Self Neglect Policy and the introduction of a Complex Adult Risk Management (CARM) Framework.

Both were developed in partnership with Herefordshire SAB, to ensure continuity over both counties, which is particularly helpful for organisations such as the Police and Health who operate across both Counties. Both were consulted on widely to ensure as many stakeholders were involved as possible.

The revised Self neglect policy is now more person centered, outlining the importance of understanding the persons lifelong experiences which have led to their situation.

Further details can be found by following this link: [Link to Updated Self Neglect Policy](#)

The CARM process sets out the expectations for working with someone who has complex needs but doesn't meet safeguarding or social care criteria. It sets out a framework for action focused multi-agency working, which identifies a lead professional to sit at the heart of the support planning to build greater continuity and trust.

Further details, including the process for making a referral, can be found here:

[Link to CARM Framework and Information](#)

Spotlight on WSAB work

Thematic SAR Regarding People who Sleep Rough, Assurance Panel

Following the publication of the Thematic Safeguarding Adults Review into People who sleep Rough the WSAB agreed to set up an Assurance Panel to review the responses from the different organisations who were identified in the recommendations for improvements to future work. A copy of the SAR and recommendations can be found by following this [link to Thematic SAR](#).

The Assurance Panel includes representatives from Homelessness Services, a representative from the Worcestershire Strategic Housing Partnership (WSHP) and an observer from Healthwatch. It also has a link to our People with Lived Experience Reference group whose role is to engage with those who have experienced homelessness.

The Panel receive regular updates on the progress of the recommendations. They review this progress and give advice on what they believe needs to be addressed before they can propose that the recommendation has been satisfactorily met, and thus can be signed off by the Board.

To date no recommendations have been signed off, however we will keep you updated on progress. The published minutes from these meetings can be found by following this [Link to WSAB Page with minutes to Assurance Panel meetings](#)

OTHER NEWS, USEFUL DOCUMENTS, AND INFORMATION:

All the important links to keep you updated.

The WSAB have published several useful documents over the last quarter. These can be found by following the link below:

[Guidance Documents Archives - Worcestershire Safeguarding Boards](#)

Local documents include:

[Worcestershire County Council Mental Capacity Assessments and Best Interest Decisions](#)

[WSAB Leaflet for Family and Friends involved in a Safeguarding Adults Review](#)

[Worcestershire Bereaved by Suicide Service](#)

SAVE THE DATE
Adults Safeguarding Week – 21st November 2022