

Making a SAR referral

Professionals/ Agencies

SARs identify potential multiagency learning rather than single agency learning

If appropriate, conduct an internal investigation to determine what lessons can be learnt for your organisation. This information will also be required in any scoping information that is requested by the Board.

Assess whether the case fulfills the following criteria

1. The adult has care and support needs.
2. There is reasonable cause for concern about how organisations worked together to safeguard an adult
3. The adult died and there is evidence it is known or suspected that the person died because of abuse or neglect
4. The adult is still alive and it is known or suspected that the adult has experienced serious abuse or neglect
5. Any other case where there is evidence to suggest that there are identifiable multi-agency areas for learning, improvement in practice or provision of care that cannot be achieved through other reviews.

Public

If a member of the public feels that there are grounds to make a SAR referral, they should contact the worker involved with the adult's care to discuss the circumstances. The worker will then assess whether there is sufficient evidence to make a referral on their behalf or whether an alternative process would be more suitable. The worker will ensure that the person is informed of the decision.

If the evidence suggests grounds for a SAR referral, then

Complete the form SAR1 and email SafeguardingAdultsBo@worcestershire.gov.uk to agree how to submit securely.

On receipt of the SAR referral, the Chair of the Case Review subgroup will consider the circumstances and whether or not to request further information from the organisations that were involved. If this proceeds, agencies will be contacted direct. The referrer will be informed of the action taken.

If the criteria are not met

and a person feels that the matter needs to be investigated, they may explore other processes such as:

- A complaint
- criminal proceedings
- disciplinary procedures
- employment law
- systems of service and professional regulation, such as CQC and the Nursing and Midwifery Council, the Health and Care Professions Council, and the General Medical Council.

The referrer may be invited to attend a Case Review subgroup meeting to discuss the circumstances of the referral.